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This newsletter is brought to you by  
Maris Hawkins and Stacey  
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# MIDWEEK NEWS

WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT  
WTL PODCAST EPISODE TO COME OUT...



## Preview of the Next Episode

### EPISODE 110: A FULBRIGHT AWARD AND AFRO-MEXICAN STORIES WITH MICHELLE NICOLA

Spanish teacher Michelle Nicola spent several months in Mexico last fall learning about what it means to be a Mexican person of African descent. In this week's episode, Michelle shares with us all about the Fulbright award that funded her research project as well as the people she met and interviewed in Mexico. Now back home with interviews in hand from her time abroad, Michelle also shares her plans for how she will make these stories of Afro-Mexican people accessible and comprehensible for novice Spanish students everywhere.

## Summer Break Announcement

For the next month or so, the podcast team will be taking some time off from producing new episodes, newsletters, guides, and other content. However, we won't be leaving you without anything good to listen to! Every Friday, we'll post an episode from our first year or two that you might not have heard or maybe just haven't heard in a while. For new listeners especially, this will be a great chance to catch up on previous content. Please keep tweeting, emailing, and posting your feedback. We can't wait to hear what you think of our stellar line-up of "classic" episodes!

Enjoy your summer, language teachers! We'll be back in August with our usual weekly content before you know it!

RECAP OF EPISODE 109: MULTILITERACIES AND DIGITAL SOCIAL READING WITH CARL BLYTHE

One of the things that makes We Teach Languages unique is the diversity of contributors, topics, and perspectives. And yet, even in the midst of difference, often unifying threads appear running through various episodes. In the last few months, I have noticed an uptick in the time spent talking about the centrality of texts and how to get students effectively working with texts as the core of their language learning. Different interviewers, different guests, and different contexts, but lots of focus on texts. So, in addition to this wonderful interview conducted by Abby Broughton in episode 109, here are a sampling of recent episodes that focus on the text as the core of our work:

- ★ Episode 108: Less Burnout and More Input with Lance Piantaggini
- ★ Episode 106: Prioritizing and Interpreting Texts with Virginia Scott
- ★ Episode 102: The Complexity of Language, Acquisition, Teaching, and Textbooks with Michael Leeser
- ★ Episode 97: Independence, Choice, Peace, and Montessori with Valerie Shull



REACTIONS TO PAST EPISODES:



JoyceAnna D'Alessandro, the Italian Island  
June 21 at 6:37 AM · 🌐

Lots of great advice in this episode!



Diane Neubauer  
@DuYanzi

Follow

There are a number of useful ways to reduce teacher burnout through overwork in this episode of We Teach Languages. Setting up routines, reducing needless grading, using strategies that do not require special prep, etc.



Leah Strobel  
@LeahStrobel

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Replying to @weteachlang @MagisterMrP

I'm an overplanner, but I'm aware that I can teach most subjects in Spanish with zero planning, & many of my best classroom moments come from being responsive to the Ss in the moment. This was a good reminder that I can rely on my experience more.



Classroom Resources  
@aatsp\_resources

Following

In this episode, professor, researcher, and textbook author Michael Leeser talks about how he views language and language teaching, how he approaches the methods course, and the roles of input and output in language learning...

Updates from Contributors



This past week, Valerie Shull (episode 97) and Ryan Rockaitis (episode 98) presented at the NNELL summer conference. This conference specializes in language learning in the elementary level. You can check out some of the ideas on Twitter at #nnell19.



Julie Sykes (episode 79) went to Hong Kong to present at the International Pragmatics Association conference. She was part of a panel that discussed Speech Act Development in Virtual Worlds.